

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Reed et al, U.S. Patent No. 5,862,325 (hereafter "Reed"). Applicants respectfully disagree.

The present invention allows authenticated users to access a plurality of application servers over a two-way trusted communication link. Claims 1 and 9 have been revised to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that each user is granted access to a list of application servers, where each of the application servers are associated with the same client identifier, via a two-way link.

In contrast, Reed does not disclose the ability to access a list of application servers, does not disclose the use of a client identifier which is associated with a list of application servers and does not disclose a two-way link as in the present invention. Instead, Reed discloses the use of a system identification ("system ID") at most over a one-way link (e.g., email; see Reed, column 7, lines 44-51). The system ID is a database index which points to accessible data. The data is stored on a provider computer. The system ID only points to a single computer and is not associated with means to identify further computers. Because Reed's system ID is related to a single computer and does not identify more than one computer, it is in no way synonymous with the "client identifier" in the Applicants' claims.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 10 have also been amended to correct for minor informalities and to revise antecedent bases. These revisions are not related to patentability.

Finally, claim 14 has been added. The features of claim 14 were originally found in original claim 1. The addition of this claim is not related to patentability either.

Accordingly, claims 1-14 are now in condition for allowance. Prompt withdrawal of the pending rejections and allowance of claims 1-14 is respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact John E. Curtin at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

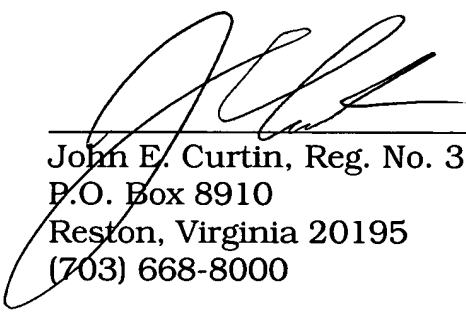
In the event this Response does not place the present application in condition for allowance, applicant requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (703) 668-8000 to schedule a personal interview.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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